

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1 to 15. (Canceled).

16. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in Claim ~~15~~ 17, wherein the superordinate control unit includes an arrangement for storing a state of at least one of the at least one subordinate control system and the at least one electrical user.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~The A device as recited in Claim 15 for performing a data and energy management in a vehicle, comprising:~~

~~a superordinate control unit including a superordinate interface;~~  
~~at least one subordinate control system including a subordinate interface; and~~  
~~a connecting arrangement via which the superordinate control unit may be connected to the at least one subordinate control system, wherein:~~

~~the superordinate control unit and the at least one subordinate control system exchange data in accordance with the subordinate interface via the connecting arrangement to achieve a bidirectional communication,~~

~~the exchanged data relating to at least one electrical user,~~

~~in the case of an energy demand by the at least one subordinate control system via the connecting arrangement, purposefully at least one additional connecting arrangement is able to be deactivated and/or activated by at least one superordinate switching arrangement of the superordinate control unit, in order to fulfill the energy demand,~~

~~the superordinate control unit includes at least one superordinate current recording arrangement that detects an overall current, flowing via the at least one superordinate switching arrangement, of the at least one electrical user connected to the connecting arrangement, and~~

~~the at least one superordinate current recording arrangement selectively deactivates the connecting arrangement if the flowing overall current exceeds a predefined boundary value.~~

18. (Currently Amended) ~~The A device as recited in Claim 15 for performing a data and energy management in a vehicle, comprising:~~

a superordinate control unit including a superordinate interface;  
at least one subordinate control system including a subordinate interface; and  
a connecting arrangement via which the superordinate control unit may be connected  
to the at least one subordinate control system, wherein:

the superordinate control unit and the at least one subordinate control system  
exchange data in accordance with the subordinate interface via the connecting arrangement to  
achieve a bidirectional communication,

the exchanged data relating to at least one electrical user,  
in the case of an energy demand by the at least one subordinate control system via the  
connecting arrangement, purposefully at least one additional connecting arrangement is able  
to be deactivated and/or activated by at least one superordinate switching arrangement of the  
superordinate control unit, in order to fulfill the energy demand, and

the at least one subordinate control system includes at least one subordinate current recording arrangement that detects a current flowing via at least one subordinate switching arrangement and supplies the current to a subordinate switching circuit logic for evaluation, as a function of which the at least one subordinate switching arrangement is able to be controlled.

19. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in Claim 15 17, wherein:

the at least one subordinate control system includes a voltage transformer capable of serving as a voltage source in order to record a state of switching elements, connected to the at least one subordinate control system, of the at least one electrical user.

20. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in Claim 15 17, wherein:

the at least one subordinate control system includes a subordinate voltage recording arrangement for recording a supply voltage with which the at least one electrical user is supplied.

21. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in Claim 20, wherein:

the subordinate voltage recording arrangement makes possible monitoring of the connecting arrangement between two adjacent subordinate control systems.

22. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in Claim 15 17, wherein:

the at least one subordinate control system includes contact elements for connecting to the connecting arrangement, the contact elements excluding a polarity reversal.

23. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in Claim ~~15~~ 17, wherein:  
data of a first of the at least one subordinate control system and a second of the at least one subordinate control system are exchangeable via the connecting arrangement in the sense of a direct communication with each other.

24. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in Claim 23, wherein:  
in connection with the direct communication between the first and second subordinate control systems, a function of a deactivated electrical user may be taken over by an electrical user that is carrying out a substitute function.

25. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in Claim ~~15~~ 17, wherein:  
the connecting arrangement includes a flat band line having at least one of at least one supply line and at least one data line.

26. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in Claim 25, wherein:  
the flat band line includes a stub line that starts from a common neutral point.

27. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in Claim 25, wherein:  
in a multivoltage vehicle electrical system, a superordinate voltage transformer of the superordinate control unit supplies an additional supply line of the connecting arrangement with a different voltage from that of the at least one supply line.

28. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in Claim 27, wherein:  
the additional supply line includes a closed circuit current line,  
safety-relevant users using the additional supply line are able to be redundantly supplied, and  
a supply is ensured of the at least one electrical user that is to be active when the vehicle is switched off.